

FLIGHT JACKET

Vol. 7, No. 29

Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif.

July 29, 2005



Jon Shearon, a Marine stationed at Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command Twentynine Palms, prepares to bat at the 16th Annual Navy-Marine Corps All-Star Baseball Game at PETCO Park in San Diego, Ca., July 17. The Marines beat Navy 6-3, tying the 16-year series 8-8. Photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Jo A. Wilbourn Sims

Marines sink Navy at PETCO

Story by Richardson Miron

MCB Camp Pendleton

SAN DIEGO—Chris Cano ripped Navy starter Lucas Ledbetter's heater into the right-field gap, took a wide turn around first base, and after passing second, stumbled flat on his stomach some 40 feet from third base.

It was a comical sight—the kind you see on a blooper highlight reel—but in the end, Cano and his All-Marine baseball teammates had the last laugh.

Cano's double knocked home Sunday's first two runs and the Marines went on to a 6-3 victory in the 16th Annual Navy vs. Marine Corps All-Star Game.

"I heard slack about it all game," Cano said after the showdown in front the many fans remaining after the Major League Baseball game preceding it. The replay of his folly replayed several times on the PETCO Park jumbotron. "Honestly, in a game like this, funny things happen. We just had a blast," Cano remarked.

Despite being removed from the game due to an injury sustained on the amusing belly-flop, Cano was all smiles at the game's conclusion.

The left fielder and his teammates had the right to yuck-it-up after the victory, which marked the Marines' second in a row and eighth in 16 matchups since the series began in 1990.

After all, Navy coach Terry Allvord sent out a press release in which he intimated his Navy squad was more talented, stating the Marines were "out-manned and out-gunned" in 2004 but still managed to come away with what he thought was an unlikely victory.

But Allvord's suggestion that the Navy is "more talented" didn't exactly play out.

Marines coach Brian Pinson read Allvord's comment and used it to fire up his players.

"I said 'look at this, read it,'" Pinson said. "I knew if we had our 'A game' we'd be hard to beat. ... Frankly, we just shoved it up their (butt) tonight."

The Marines, who won six consecutive matchups between 1996 and 2001, have now taken the series' first two games at the Padres' new ballpark in downtown San Diego, Calif.

"We will tip our cap to them again," Allvord said. "They played well today. ... We were the opposite of them. We didn't get the clutch hits. (I think) our guys are a lot better than they showed."

Down by two runs in the bottom of the eighth inning, the Navy put together its last rally when Michael Hernandez singled home William Gury to cut the Ma-

See **BASEBALL**, page 3

Inside

Weekend forecast from Miramar's weather station



82°/64°
Today



79°/64°
Saturday



82°/63°
Sunday

**Ordinance
loads up on
training
Page 6**



**Marines get
ready to
rumble
Page 10**



Keep household hazardous waste out of dumpsters

Story by Kevin D. McGuinness

MCAS Miramar Waste Management Division Director

Nearly all homes and barracks rooms contain hazardous products of one kind or another that can endanger human health and the environment if improperly handled. These products are referred to as Household Hazardous Waste and are typically used in cleaning, home improvement, automobile maintenance, lawn care, hobbies and various other tasks. The hazards associated with HHW are easily identified with product labeling such as: DANGER, WARNING, TOXIC, CAUTION, POISON, FLAMMABLE, CORROSIVE or REACTIVE.

Electronic waste or "E-waste" has recently become a great concern as households more frequently and in greater numbers discard computers, televisions, VCRs, stereos, printers, fax machines and cell phones. Worst among these are Cathode Ray Tubes (CRT) from televisions or computer monitors that contain about 5 to 7 pounds of lead, a toxic metal that is hazardous to human health and the environment.

HHW should never be thrown into the trash or poured down the sink or storm drains. Improper disposal may injure refuse workers or pollute ground water, waterways and our oceans, potentially destroying marine life. Our health and environment are at stake, so it is important that each of us take responsibility for the products we use. Improper waste disposal is also illegal.

Particular protocol holds aboard Miramar. Do not throw HHW into the numerous green dumpsters around the station. The station can be held liable for improper waste disposal, and this liability may be passed on to persons found guilty of illegal waste disposal.

What should be done with HHW? "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" is the slogan to remember, and they are words we all should live by. Reduce by buying fewer hazardous products or using natural homeopathic remedies for cleaning, pest control, fertilizing, etc; buying only what you

need; and then by using up what you do buy so all that is left is an empty container. Reuse by giving your unwanted products to someone or an organization that has a need for them. For example, the MCAS Miramar Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Thrift Store, Bldg 6275, will accept working electronic products and small appliances. Recycle by finding a community recycling event or HHW collection center convenient to you and knowing what they will and won't accept. Though many recycling centers will take HHW, the Miramar Recycling Center does not. Contact the MCAS Miramar Recycling Center at 577-6366 for more information.

Many manufacturers and service providers make recycling easy with "take back" policies for such things as used oil, antifreeze, car batteries and tires, cell phones, and large kitchen appliances.

If you do have HHW, take it to the Household Hazardous Waste Transfer Facility located at the Miramar Landfill entrance on Convoy Street, just north of State Highway 52. The facility accepts HHW on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., except holidays. An appointment is required and can be made by calling (858) 694-7000, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is open to city of San Diego residents only, though most cities offer a HHW collection program, often at no charge. San Diego County residents living in unincorporated areas can call (877) 713-2784 or find their local HHW collection center. Visit www.co.sandiego.ca.us/deh/ or www.ilacsd.org/ for more information on HHW disposal, recycling and other related topics.

Common HHWs include:

❖ aerosols ❖ automotive fluids oil ❖ brake fluid
❖ antifreeze ❖ batteries of all types ❖ mercury
thermometers ❖ computers ❖ televisions
❖ fluorescent bulbs ❖ tires ❖ pharmaceuticals
❖ cleaner ❖ propane cylinders ❖ paints
❖ fertilizers ❖ pesticides ❖ solvents

Military spouses program offers teaching opportunities

Story by Sgt. LaToya Graddy

MCB Quantico Combat Correspondent

MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, Va.—Quantico's Career Resources Management Center and Old Dominion University are currently offering information on a pilot program for military spouses interested in becoming teachers.

The pilot program called "Spouses to Teachers" is designed to assist active duty, reserve, Individual Ready Reserve and National Guard spouses in obtaining a career in education.

The program will help individuals find teaching positions in kindergarten through 12th grade. The program also supports individuals by providing information on how to become a teacher, guidance on teacher certification requirements, paths to getting certified, employment potential, financial assistance and employment searches,

said Barbara West, family member employment assistance program coordinator, Career Resources Management Center.

The pilot project is offered in selected states: California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Texas and Virginia.

Because limited funding is provided to reimburse the cost of required state tests for teacher licenses and certifications, financial assistance is limited to \$600 per person.

"Spouses to Teachers is one program that will help place the spouses' by making them aware of programs regarding jobs on military installations, employment opportunities overseas, and information popular career fields," said West. "When the spouses have the opportunity to fulfill a career of their choice, it helps with retention of the (servicemember) because (the spouses) are happy."

For more information, call (703) 630-2226, (703) 784-4963, or visit www.spousestoteachers.com.



Is this your Oldsmobile?

The above vehicle has been marked for impound by the Provost Marshal's Office. To avoid having the vehicle towed, please store it in the Marine Corps Community Services or Traffic Management Office lots.

Abandoned vehicles at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar present security risks as well as environmental and safety concerns. PMO attempts to identify and contact vehicle owners of illegally parked, abandoned vehicles prior to tagging the vehicle with a Department of Defense notice. Vehicles are then scheduled for towing three days following the notice.

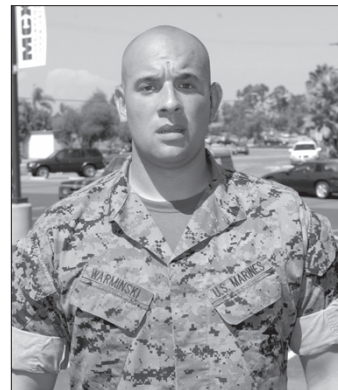
For more information, please call 577-1276 or 577-4150.

MIRAMARKS

"Why do you think it is important to properly dispose of household hazardous waste

CPL. CHRISTOPHER A.
WARMINSKI
Airframes Mechanic
VMFA-134

"It is really important. I deal with hazardous materials everyday. These types of materials have lethal solvents like lithium and lead that are dangerous."



PETTY OFFICER 1ST CLASS
LARRY MEDINA
Corpsman
MAG-16

"Prior to this, I was an (emergency medical technician) and had to respond to numerous calls for children involved accidents with hazardous materials."

FLIGHT JACKET

The *Flight Jacket* is published every Friday at no cost to the government by Military Guides, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Navy or the U.S. Marine Corps under an exclusively written contract with the U.S. Marine Corps.

This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for the military services, contents of the *Flight Jacket* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense, Department of the Navy or U.S. Marine Corps.

It is for informational purposes only and in no way should be considered directive in nature.

The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office. Comments or ques-

tions should be directed to ombpaoflight@miramar.usmc.mil. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by DoD or the Military Guides, of the products or service advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication must be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. All queries concerning business matters, display ads or paid classified ads should be directed to Military Guides, 9636 Tierra Grande, Suite 201, San Diego, CA 92126, or (858) 547-7343.



MAJ. GEN. KEITH J. STALDER
Commanding General
3rd Marine Aircraft Wing



BRIG. GEN. CARL B. JENSEN
Commander MCABWA
Commanding General
MCAS Miramar

Maj. Curtis Hill
Public Affairs Director

Capt. Al Eskalis
Public Affairs Deputy Director

Staff Sgt. Chad E. McMeen
Public Affairs Chief

1st. Lt. Paul L. Croom II
Internal Information Officer

Staff Sgt. Raymie Cruz
Internal Information Chief

Cpl. T.D. Smith
Layout



A Marine Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighter/Recovery team stands by next to a refueling Air Force KC-135 on the flight line at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar during a medical air evacuation mission July 19. In addition to ensuring the aircraft was refueled safely, the Marines further supported the mission by also helping the KC-135's medical crew with unloading and loading patients. *Photo by Cpl. Paul Leicht*

Miramar supports Air Force medical air evacuation missions

Story by Cpl. Paul Leicht

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

Among the many missions of the Marines and Sailors at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, one of the least known is supporting Air Force air medical evacuations.

"Today we have an Air Force KC-135 medical evacuation flight that has landed here and we support them in a couple ways. For instance, while the aircraft refuels here, we have (Aircraft Rescue Firefighter) Marines standing by in case of an emergency," said Staff Sgt. Giancarlo Pinero, crew chief, Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting/Recovery, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, and a native of Escondido, Calif.

"We also provide a safety egress during

the patient evacuation. In a high oxygen content environment, external fuel leaks can be a hazard too."

Since the advent of airpower, aircraft have been used for many purposes, proving highly useful in saving thousands of lives throughout many wars and conflicts.

"Today, the Air Force's Air Mobility Command in conjunction with the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve fly routine and urgent medical evacuation missions utilizing a variety of aircraft, including the C-130 Hercules, KC-135 Stratotanker and C-17 Globemaster III," said Air Force Maj. Tina Mulcahy, flight nurse, 167th Airlift Squadron, with the West Virginia National Guard's 167th Airlift Wing out of Martinsburg, W.V.

"Our mission today is to drop off a patient and pick up another for transport to the East Coast to Andrews Air Force Base. Depending on the injury, we disperse the patient to the nearest medical station that can best treat the patient."

With a crew of five medical personnel, including two flight nurses and three medical technicians, all aboard are activated Guardsmen and Reservists from several Air Force bases on the East Coast and most have served one or two tours in the Middle East, according to Mulcahy.

"We normally fly in the C-130, but for long range, cross-country flights, (we use aircraft) like the KC-135 we are on today—which the Air Force has used for many years primarily for aerial refueling—and the

newer C-17," said Mulcahy who first enlisted in the Air Force in 1987 before receiving a commission in 1990.

Mulcahy's crew flies up to three cross-country flights a week, often stopping at Miramar depending on the patient load and the medical care facility destination location.

Flight nurses like Mulcahy, who also has a bachelor's degree in Nursing and a Master's degree in Community Health Education, have good things to say about the Marines.

"The Marines are just great and are really a breed apart," said Mulcahy who is also a veteran of service in Iraq, where she performed similar medical air evacuations. "We appreciate everything they do for us each time we land here."

BASEBALL, continued from page 1

rines' lead to 4-3.

But Hernandez was thrown out at second trying to steal and it blunted the comeback attempt.

Marine catcher Jon Shearon, who threw Hernandez out and poked three singles in the contest, was the game's MVP. Navy leadoff man Ray Judy also had three hits, but hit a pop-up with two runners on base. Joshua Stueve, center fielder for the Marines, swooped in on the aired-out fly ball and easily caught it for the game's last out.

Though the field was ripe with competition during the game, the Marines and Sailors shook hands in the age-old post-game tradition. Both teams left it all out on the field, and as the players walked into the sunset after the game, they were no longer "the Navy" and "the Marines," but a blue-green team ready once again to depart at a moment's notice in defense of the red, white and blue.

MPs on patrol ensure safe passage on Iraqi roadways

Story by Cpl. John E. Lawson Jr.

2nd Force Service Support Group Combat Correspondent

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq — The sun has not yet even begun to rise as the Marines begin to gather on the benches in the motor pool. Some lay down their body armor and try to catch a few more minutes of sleep. Some smoke cigarettes. Some are already getting to work, checking their trucks' communications equipment, loading water and Meals Ready-To-Eat and any other gear they might need.

Everyone knows it is going to be a long day. And it's supposed to be a hot one too.

These Marines have a job to do: ensure the security of a predetermined section of a major roadway in the Fallujah area to allow for the safe and uninterrupted passage of coalition forces and the Iraqi people and disrupt any insurgent activity on that roadway.

These men, the Marines of Military Police Detachment, Combat Logistics Battalion 8, 2nd Force Service Support Group (Forward), routinely provide security for CLB-8 assets during convoys and other operations throughout their area of operations in western Iraq. They have also been assisting Regimental Combat Team 8, 2nd Marine Division, with security on the roadways.

Huddled around the front of a Humvee, the headlights illuminating the patrol leader, Staff Sgt. Jamie M. Lybrand, the Marines listen as he briefs the mission at hand.

"The bottom line out there is our mission: to rid [the roadway] of insurgent activity and to ensure the safe passage of coalition forces," said the Pace, Fla., native. "We have to stay alert and be wary because as we change our tactics, they change theirs. As we adjust, they adjust."

After the briefing and a final communications check, the Marines mount their vehicles and stage in "marching order," waiting to depart the camp.

The security of this particular route is the responsibility of 1st Bn., 6th Marine Regiment, RCT-8.

"We provide support which allows 1/6 to move their operations," said Lybrand. "As they need to move to do their ops, we are there to fill in and cover the (route). If 1/6 moves, they call on us to support."

With weapons loaded and everyone's eyes alert, the military policemen begin the potentially dangerous task of ensuring the route's security. The six vehicles break into two teams and patrol back and forth along their section of the roadway, approximately five kilometers long with multiple overpasses and access roads.

"We drive the first time and inspect any debris, removing what we can," Lybrand said. "This way we know to be extra alert if any new debris shows up while we are out there."

Insurgents have established a steady habit of attacking coalition forces with Improvised Explosive Devices and mines, so this is one of the main concerns facing the MPs on their patrols.

Today the Marines brought a special tool in combating mines and IEDs: a combat engineer armed with an Army Navy Portable Search System 14, equipped with ground-penetrating radar.

"Mines and IEDs are a tremendous threat," said Lybrand. "We use every asset we have and do everything in our power to find mines and IEDs, anything that explodes, before they explode on someone."

The military policemen have used engineers and military working dogs to help combat the IED threat in the past. They also use binoculars and rifle scopes to look for anything suspicious.

The Marines do more than just patrol while running these security missions; they also set up observation posts and run vehicle checkpoints.



Marines with Military Police Detachment, Combat Logistics Battalion 8, 2nd Force Service Support Group (Forward), secure an area where insurgents have been known to emplace mines and Improvised Explosive Devices. The MPs, assisted by a combat engineer, swept and cleared the area before continuing their security patrols here. The MPs conduct the patrols along certain major roadways in the Fallujah area to eliminate the insurgent threat and ensure safe passage for coalition forces. Photo by Cpl. John E. Lawson Jr.

There are two types of VCPs, deliberate and snap. Deliberate VCPs are when the patrol stops and sets up a checkpoint to search vehicles for an extended point of time. Snap VCPs are when the convoy abruptly stops and searches a few suspicious vehicles before remounting and continuing on their way.

At the checkpoints the MPs stop and search random and suspicious vehicles on the roadway.

"We run VCPs to screen what's on the road," Lybrand said. "If we see a vehicle acting suspicious, we block traffic and check the vehicle."

Despite the temperatures exceeding 118 degrees Fahrenheit, the Marines remain diligent in accomplishing their mission.

"If a Marine's mind is not on the mission because they are sweating out... well, we prevent that by staying hydrated," said Lybrand. "As long as they hydrate, their minds are in the game."

The military policemen of the detachment do more than just patrol the roadways and assist 1/6; they provide security to CLB-8 for convoys, Explosive Ordnance and Disposal and vehicle recovery missions and conduct other security missions as the situation requires.

Of the 61 Marines in the detachment, 26 are provisional, meaning they are not military policemen by Military Occupational Specialty. Twenty of the Marines are reserve communications Marines mobilized to augment the MPs.

"We train them and integrate them," said Lybrand.

Sergeant Chris L. Epps, 4th squad leader and military policeman by trade, has deployed to Iraq three times. The Richmond, Va., native has seen Operation Iraqi Freedom develop since the beginning, and passes that knowledge on to his fellow MPs, provisional or not.

"(Provisional MPs) are no different. They know their jobs. They sweat like us; they work like us; it's their necks on the line out there, just like us," he said. "Marines are Marines; we all bleed green."

While the provisional MPs work right alongside the other MPs, it took some training and experience to get them up to speed.

Sergeant Thomas M. Litton is a data communications Marine by MOS. He left his billet at the Mobilization Command Kansas City Technology Service Organization to deploy to Iraq earlier this year with the Marines of the Military Police Detachment.

"When I got out here, all I knew was computers," the El Paso, Texas, native said. "Now I'm dealing with all the weapons systems and all types of Humvees. It's pretty much a complete 180 from what I was doing."

It was a challenge learning all the weapons systems and how the MPs do business, he said, but the teachings of the staff noncommissioned officers and squad leaders in the detachment made overcoming that challenge possible.

"We learned from the experience of all the active duty regular MPs," he said. "We absorbed their knowledge and

kept rolling with it."

The experience of many Marines within the detachment shows the progression of the conflict in Iraq and gives a broad spectrum of information to the less experienced Marines.

"The first time was more conventional; the enemy stood and fought us," said Epps. "The second time, the enemy acted more like an insurgency, attacking with engage-and-withdraw tactics. Now the enemy uses mostly IEDs and terrorist-like tactics. Their tactics are evolving based on their defeats; we keep killing them so they try something different."

Corporal Andres U. Florentino, 1st fire team leader in 3rd squad and Newport News, Va., native, agrees with Epps. He has also deployed to Iraq three times, but his second deployment was cut short when a rocket-propelled grenade struck his vehicle, littering his body with shrapnel.

Florentino volunteered for this third deployment to Iraq, citing his desire to pass his knowledge and experience to his fellow Marines as his motive.

"I'm trying to make it to where (something similar to what happened to me) doesn't happen to someone else," he said. "Maybe something I know can help someone else."

"When I'm driving and I see something — a defilade, highrise or overpass — I tell the Marines what the enemy used to do," he said. "It broadens their lookout; instead of just looking for mines and IEDs they are aware of what else could happen. Right now the war is mostly IEDs and mines, but who knows what's next?"

The Marines exude a knowledge that their efforts are directly impacting the future of Iraq.

"We're just trying to make a difference (and) get the insurgents off the road," said Cpl. Derrick R. Colclasure, 3rd fire team leader in 4th squad. "(The coalition) is helping (the Iraqi people) establish a government so they can have more say in what happens within their own country."

"We're also teaching them how to enforce their government," said Florentino. "If we weren't here, they'd have a leader who'd be overthrown and another dictator would fall into place."

"We can bring some semblance of peace and democracy to these people after their history, but there's a long road ahead of them," said Epps. "The simple fact that Saddam Hussein is not in power is the best thing anyone could have done for this country."

Drenched in sweat, the Marines pull back into the safety of Camp Fallujah as the sun starts to set in the sky. Another day's work finished, another step closer to a secure and stable Iraq.

"The efforts of the Marines here are what make this a success, the hard work, sweat and blood they put into everything they do," said Lybrand. "They're doing a damn fine job."

3rd MAW Marines, squadrons to receive awards

Story by Cpl. T.D. Smith

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

The Marine Corps Aviation Association announced that four Marines and five squadrons from the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing have been selected to receive MCAA awards.

The Marine Administrative Message pertaining to the announcement states the recipients were selected for the 2005 Annual Aviation Awards, and will officially receive their awards at a reunion and symposium to be held in Reno, Nev. Oct. 12-15.

The MCAA was chartered as a non-profit organization in 1972, after its founding organization, the First Marine Aviation Force Veterans Association became defunct.

The FMAFVA had already started an annual awards program and the MCAA continued that tradition. Each award is named in honor of a former Marine who made noteworthy contributions in his field in Marine aviation.

The Alfred A. Cunningham Award, named in honor of the "Father of Marine Corps Aviation," had first been presented in 1962 to the Marine Aviator of the Year. The inaugural recipient

was Lt. Col. John H. Glenn, Jr.

Today, these awards still recognize aviation Marines and squadrons for significant contributions to Marine Corps aviation.

Staff Sgt. Brian Rioux, ground support equipment mechanic, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 16, Marine Aircraft Group 16, was selected Maintenance Marine of the Year and will receive the Willie D. Sproule Award.

Master Sgt. Ronald Rowe, plans chief, Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 3, was selected Aviation Supply Marine of the Year and will receive the Ken W. Southcomb Award.

Gunnery Sgt. John Kreitzer, avionics chief, MAG 16, was selected Avionics Marine of the Year and will receive the Paul G. Vess Award.

Gunnery Sgt. Anthony Garcia, ordinance technician, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242, was selected for non-commissioned officer leadership and will receive the James E. Nicholson Award.

Security Battalion, Marine Wing Support Group 37, was recognized for exceptional achievement and will receive the James Maguire Award.

Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 was named Fighter Attack Squadron of the Year and will receive the Robert M. Hanson Award.

Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 268 was named Marine Medium Helicopter/Tiltrotor Squadron of the Year and will receive the Edward C. Dyer Award.

Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 16 was named Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron of the Year and will receive the Donald E. Davis Award.

Marine Air Control Squadron 1 was named winner of the Commandants Trophy and will receive the Commandant of the Marine Corps Aviation Award.

The awards are distributed equally between fixed-wing and rotary-wing entities, and between enlisted Marines and Marine officers. All Marine Corps aviation is included in the awards program.

"We are competing with everyone out there, so this is quite a significant event," said Sgt. Maj. Dennis Reed, sergeant major, 3rd MAW. "It is great their efforts have been recognized and I'm quite proud so many of our Marines were recognized."

Celebrities visit Marines at MWSS-373 family day



Celebrity Benito Martinez, who plays David Aceveda on TV's "The Shield," (right) meets with Marines from Marine Wing Support Squadron 373, Marine Wing Support Group 37, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, during the squadron's family day at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar July 23. The family day consisted of several competitive events and a barbeque. In addition to Martinez, the Marines and their families were visited by Ashley Jones from the movie "The King's Guard," Ricardo Antonio Chavira from "J.A.G.," and Amy Davidson from "8 Simple Rules."

"The family day is (held) to thank the Marines and their families," said Lt. Col. Freddie J. Blish, commanding officer, MWSS-373. "It helps to show appreciation to the Marines and their families for their hard work and service. We recently returned from Iraq where we participated in the battle of Fallujah, as well as provided support for First Marine Expeditionary Force in the Al Anbar province. The celebrities are here to show their appreciation for the sacrifices that the Marines and their families have made. This event gives (the Marines and their families) a chance to relax and mingle in an atmosphere other than work." *Photo by Lance Cpl. James B. Hoke*



Lance Cpl. Kyle J. Dawson carries an inert AIM-9 Sidewinder missile with assistance from other ordnance Marines, July 21, at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif. Dawson, an ordnance technician with Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 225, Marine Aircraft Group 11, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, is loading the training missile onto an F/A-18D for a training flight. *Photo by Sgt. J.L. Zimmer III*

‘Vikings’ train to safely load, drop bombs

Story by Sgt. J. L. Zimmer III

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

The ordnance Marines of Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 225, Marine Aircraft Group 11, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, load and unload inert ordnance each time a training mission is called.

“One of my jobs is to ensure the safe loading and unloading of all ordnance on the F/A-18s within the squadron,” said Sgt. William C. Riley, day crew supervisor, VMFA(AW)-225. “This includes the Sidewinder, Sparrow and other air-to-air or air-to-ground ordnance we use for training.”

Corporal Brian M. Breslin, ordnance technician, VMFA(AW)-225, said one of the biggest tasks he has been assigned was the safe acceptance of nearly four squadrons of aircraft during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

“In Iraq, we tested all the F/A-18s that came into theater that were used by Marine squadrons,” said the 24-year-old Virginia Beach, Va., native. “Also during that time, our squadron loaded and dropped more than 750,000 pounds of ordnance from our jets.”

According the Lance Cpl. Joshua Kepp, a

22-year-old ordnance technician with the “Vikings” of VMFA(AW)-225, the F/A-18D does not store explosive ordnance on the inside of the aircraft.

“The F/A-18 has nine stations where ordnance and other equipment can be stored,” said the Rochester, Minn., native. Kepp explained that a station is any point on the

aircraft that is designed to carry an external load.

“Five of the stations are for heavy ordnance (up to 2,000 pound bombs) and

the other four are for external fuel pods, lighter ordnance like a Sidewinder or other sensors. It’s our job to make sure these stations are safe to attach ordnance to. We make sure nothing comes off the aircraft while in flight.”

Riley, the overall supervisor for more than a dozen Marines, said the ordnance shop takes pride in all the work they do because they have a big responsibility.

“Our job is to maintain all weapons systems on the F/A-18D so the Vikings can provide combat air superiority when called upon,” said the Edgewood, Ky., native. “Basically, we make sure the bombs get dropped on the bad guys in a big way.”

“Our job is to maintain all weapons systems on the F/A-18D so the Vikings can provide combat air superiority when called upon.”

**Sgt. William C. Riley
Day Crew Supervisor
VMFA (AW)-225**

‘Cowboys’ round-up annual two-week training at Miramar

Story by Sgt. J.L. Zimmer III

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

The active duty and reserve Marines of Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 112, Marine Aircraft Group 41, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing, finished their annual reserve training at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar July 21 and 22.

The squadron’s annual training requirement was fulfilled when the F/A-18A Hornet pilots dropped several different types of ordnance throughout Yuma, Arizona’s various ranges.

Sergeant Maj. Steven S. Bunch, sergeant major, VMFA-112, said the squadron dropped one specific type of ordnance for the first time while here.

“We do four deployments a year,” said Bunch, a 41-year-old Stillwater, Okla., native. “We dropped a few of the Rockeye bombs. There are only two ranges where they can be dropped – one in Yuma and a range in Okinawa, Japan.”

Bunch added the squadron is required to perform their annual training because of the makeup of reservists within the squadron.

“We have a select mix of Marines in this squadron,” he said. “About half are reservists and the other half are active duty. Also, Miramar has a great F-18 community, so training here makes it easier to get parts and has easier access to the necessary training ranges.”

Although this year’s annual training brought the “Cowboys” to Miramar, next year may be different.



An F/A-18A Hornet from Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 112, Marine Aircraft Group 41, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing, taxis toward the runway July 20 at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif. The “Cowboys” of VMFA -112 completed their annual reserve training aboard the air station. Photo by Sgt. J.L. Zimmer III

“We have done deployments to Japan, throughout Europe and Australia,” said Sgt. Antonio D. Spencer, plane captain, VMFA-112. “I have been here a few times to train and can’t complain about the weather.”

Gunnery Sgt. William M. Baum, maintenance control

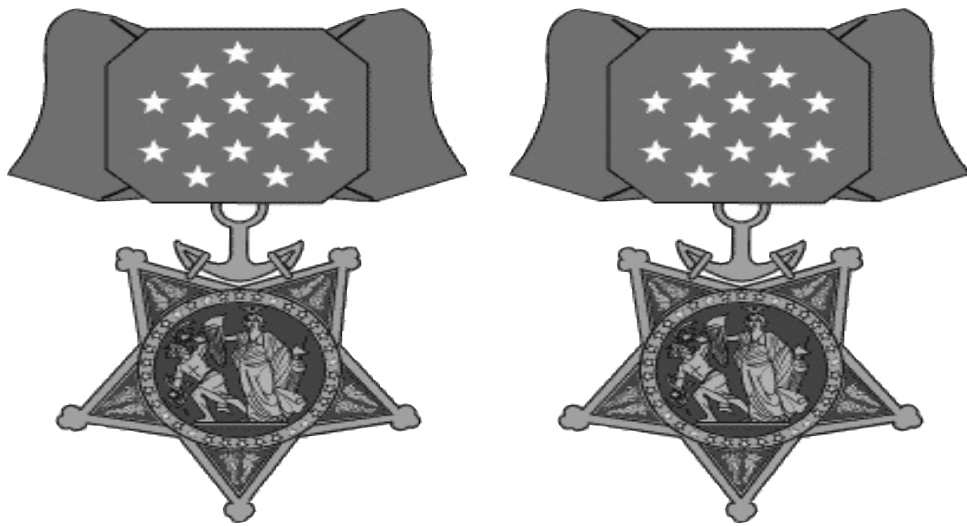
noncommissioned officer-in-charge, VMFA-112, said he enjoys coming to Miramar.

“We are only here for two weeks to train,” said Baum. “The weather here is awesome and the training grounds are good for the pilots and the crew.”

Happy Birthday Smedley Butler



Major Gen. Smedley D. Butler, born July 30, 1881, was one of only two Marines and 19 servicemembers to be awarded the Medal of Honor twice. At the time of his death in 1940, he was the most highly decorated Marine in the Corps' history.



Story by Cpl. T.D. Smith

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

This July 30th may seem like any other Saturday, but it might be fitting for Marines to pause and remember a great Marine Corps hero on his birthday.

“Ol’ Gimlet Eye” Maj.Gen. Smedley Darlington Butler was born July 30, 1881 as the son of Congressional Representative Thomas S. Butler. At the time of Butler’s death, June 24, 1940, he was the most decorated Marine in the Corps’ history.

Butler knew both the praise of popularity, and the contempt of people who lack a respect for those willing to stand firm in their convictions, as Butler did so many times.

One such time came in 1924, when Butler accepted a leave of absence from the Marine Corps to serve the city of Philadelphia, Pa. Butler was in charge of enforcing probation and he insisted on enforcing the law against all violators, regardless of economic stature. This unwavering dedication to equality drew the respect of some and disdain from others.

Another example of his devotion to principle is epitomized in the book he authored, *War is Racket*. The book pioneered the idea that there is inordinate capital to be gained from warfare.

One excerpt of the publication states: “War is a racket. It always has been. It is possibly the oldest, easily the most profitable, surely the most vicious. It is the only one international in scope. It is the only one in which the profits are reckoned in dollars and the losses in lives.

A racket is best described, I believe, as something that is not what it seems to the majority of the people. Only a small, “inside” group knows what it is about. It is conducted for the benefit of the very few, at the expense of the very many... At least 21,000 new millionaires and billionaires were made in the United States during the world war. That many admitted their huge blood gains in their income tax returns. How many other war millionaires falsified their tax returns no one knows.”

Further in the work, Butler described his opinion of the disconnect between policy makers and those people who

implement the rules.

“How many of these war millionaires shouldered a rifle? How many of them dug a trench? How many of them knew what it meant to go hungry in a rat-infested dugout? How many of them spent sleepless, frightened nights ducking shells and shrapnel and machine gun bullets? How many of them parried a bayonet thrust of an enemy? How many of them were wounded or killed in battle?”

Butler was no stranger to the sacrifice of war. During his 33 years of active duty service, he served in battles in Haiti, Cuba, Mexico, China and France.

“The Fighting Quaker,” as Butler was also known, was 17 years old when appointed a second lieutenant during the Spanish-American War.

While serving in China, Butler was promoted to brevet captain following distinguished conduct and service in the presence of the enemy near Tientsin, China. He was wounded in battle during this time.

Butler is one of only two Marines ever to receive the Medal of Honor twice. There have been only 19 servicemembers able to claim that achievement.

One of Butler’s Medals of Honor came during action at Vera Cruz, Mexico. The citation notes that Butler’s troops were successful in the occupation of the city because of his courage and skill in leading them.

The second Medal of Honor stemmed from Butler’s conspicuous bravery and forceful leadership during the battle with Caco resistance on Nov. 17, 1915, at Fort Riviere, Haiti.

During World War I, Butler commanded the 13th Marine Regiment in France. For his exceptional service, he received the Army Distinguished Service Medal, the Navy Distinguished Service Medal and the French Order of the Black Star.

There are many things to be learned from Butler’s distinguished life and service. This weekend, Marines might pause and give a thought to a Marine Corps legend, or maybe they will give two: one for the service he gave in the Marine Corps and another for the fortitude he had in his principals that exemplifies Marines past and present.

Thrift Store to offer name brands, affordable prices

Story by Lance Cpl. James B. Hoke

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Thrift Store is reopening at Miramar Aug. 1 after a two-month renovation.

The store closed June 1 for the renovation that covered everything from replacing the lights to arranging the racks to allow more visibility of the items offered.

“I began to be aware that we were not following all of the safety regulations, as we had boxes piled up much too high,” said Ann W. Evans, director, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. “The donations that are given to us are overwhelming sometimes and would just pile up. We go through everything now with a critical eye on what we will sell.”

Donations consist of everything from appliances to uniforms. The new and improved store promises to carry many brand name items as well.

“We get donated many brand name items,” said the Phoenix native. “We also get donated new things that have never been worn before. There are a lot of wonderful things offered here.”

As the thrift store will now carry new and used brand name items, there has been a slight change in the price list with almost everything averaging between \$1 and \$5.

“Compared to other local thrift stores, our prices are a little bit lower,” said Charlotte A. Barborka, acting chairman, Miramar NMCRS Thrift Shop. “San Diego is not a cheap area, so we want to help out the Marines and Sailors as much as possible.”

The color of the tag on each item identifies its sale price.

“We mark all of the merchandise with colored tags,” said Natsuko H. Gandy, volunteer, Miramar NMCRS Thrift Shop.



The Navy Marine Corps Relief Society Thrift Store at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar will reopen Aug. 1 after a two-month renovation. In addition to new, name-brand items, it will carry everything from kitchen appliances to hard-backed novels at prices averaging between \$1 and \$5. Photo by Lance Cpl. James B. Hoke

“All of the red tags are one dollar.”

According to Barborka, all who shop at the thrift store, as well as all who don’t shop at it, can gain from what it does and provides.

“I’ve worked for other nonprofit organizations before and the thing I like the most about this is those who shop here or don’t shop here can still benefit from it,” said the Chattanooga, Tenn., native. “All of the funds generated from the thrift store are transferred directly back into general funds to loans and grants offered by the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society.”

However, the thrift store also limits the people that are authorized to shop there.

“All Navy and Marine active duty, reservists and retirees are eligible to shop here if they have valid ID cards,” said Barborka. “However, only active duty can buy the uniforms.”

Once the thrift store opens Aug. 1, it will operate every Tuesday and Thursday between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. For more information on items that can be donated, brands and prices of merchandise offered, contact the thrift store at (858) 271-4633.

King of Fights pounds Okinawa

Story by Pfc. C. Warren Peace

MCB Camp Butler Combat Correspondent

KADENA AIR BASE, OKINAWA, Japan—Hot lights, a boxing ring and a full crowd were in place for what promised to be an action-packed night at the King of Fights 10 at the Rocker NCO Club July 16. The event featured four kickboxing matches and three mixed martial arts matches. Two of the matches featured servicemembers stationed on Okinawa.

The eager crowd exploded with cheers as Kevin Randleman, Pride Fighting legend and former Ultimate Fighting Championship heavyweight champion, welcomed the servicemembers to the event.

“This night is for you,” said Randleman. “You are the ones who keep me and my family safe.”

Randleman signed autographs before and after the fights, giving fans an incentive to get there early and stay late.

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Sean A. Robinson, a cryptological communication technician, Commander, Task Force 76, was the first servicemember to fight. He fought in the mixed martial arts class

against Yuji Miyazaki in the fifth bout. Robinson applied a rear naked choke that caused Miyazaki to tap out in the second round. The Sailors in attendance went wild when Robinson raised his fist in victory.

“During the fight, you don’t know anyone is watching, and you don’t hear anything,” said Robinson. “It’s crazy how loud it is once the fight is over.”

Once the bell sounded, marking the end of the fight,

Robinson’s coach and friends rushed into the ring and lifted him into the air.

“I owe it all to my coach, U.S. Army Special Forces medic Sgt. 1st Class Bernie Fernandez,” said Robinson.

According to Robinson, he has been fighting since he was seven and has studied kickboxing, boxing, tae kwon do, judo, and Brazilian jujitsu. He currently fights in the 175-pound weight class.

Sergeant Idris N. Turay, the operations noncommissioned officer with Headquarters Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, fought in a kickboxing match in which he knocked out Shota Koja in the second round.

Staff Sgt. Delvon M. Survine, fuel chief, Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, trains Turay at Camp Courtney’s Third Masters Martial Arts Academy.

Turay, a shotokan karate third-degree black belt from Rockville, Md., has also studied kickboxing and hapkido, a Korean form of martial arts. He currently holds the International Sport Karate Association Okinawa regional middleweight championship.

“I just hope it inspires my fellow servicemembers to get out and do something active,” said Turay. “There are a lot of people who have (untapped) potential out there.”

Last was the Okinawan Hardcore Championship bout. Masaaki Shinzato and Ken Hamamura alternated between grappling and striking the entire three rounds of no-holds-barred action.

The bout went to the judges, and Hamamura was announced as the new Okinawan Hardcore Champion, wrapping up the action-packed evening.



Petty Officer 2nd Class Sean Robinson gets lifted into the air after beating Yuji Miyazaki during a mixed martial arts match in the King of Fights 10 at the Rocker NCO Club at Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, Japan July 16. Robinson won the fight by way of tap out in the second round. The Cedar Falls, Iowa, native is a cryptological technician communication, with Commander, Task Force 76. Photo by Pfc. C. Warren Peace

Briefs

Miramar Movies

The Station Auditorium is located in Building 2242, and will be featuring the following movies. Outside food and drinks are not permitted. For more information, contact 577-4143 or log on to www.mccsmiramar.com.

Friday:
6:00 p.m. Special Event: Dukes of Hazzard premiere and celebrity appearance

Saturday:
1:00 p.m. Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants (PG)
6:30 p.m. Madagascar (PG)
9:00 p.m. The Honeymooners (PG-13)

Sunday:
1:00 p.m. Madagascar (PG-13)
6:30 p.m. The Longest Yard (PG-13)

Wednesday:
6:30 p.m. Batman Begins (PG-13)

Thursday:
2:00 p.m. Howl's Moving Castle (PG)
6:30 p.m. Lords of Dogtown (PG-13)

Meet the Dukes of Hazzard

The Bob Hope Theater will host a special USO-Marine Corps Community Services Meet the Stars event today at 8 p.m. featuring a group of Hollywood stars from the film "Dukes of Hazzard."

Slated to appear are Willie Nelson and Jessica Simpson. The event will be followed by a special screening of the movie. Servicemembers in uniform will have seating privileges. For more information, call 577-6365

Religious Services

The Chaplain's Office is located in Building 5632 and coordinates regularly-scheduled worship services. For the location and meeting schedules of religious activities, contact the Chaplain's Office at 577-1333.

Sunday:
9:30 a.m. Protestant worship service
11 a.m. Roman Catholic Eucharist
Wednesday:
7 p.m. Baptist service
Monday-Friday:
11:30 a.m. Roman Catholic daily mass
Jewish:
7 p.m. First Friday of the month MCRD
7:30 p.m. Last Friday at Edson Range Chapel

Air Show preferred seating

Preferred seating for the 2005 MCAS Miramar Air Show is now available. Tickets may be purchased at the MCAS Miramar Entertainment, Leisure and Ticket Office or online.

For more ticket information, visit www.miramarairshow.ticketinfo2005.com or call 1-888-4-FLY-SHOW.

Pharmacy pick-up window

Starting Aug. 1, the Miramar Pharmacy pick-up window will serve customers by walk-up only and will no longer support drive-through refills. The window is for picking up prescription refills.

Phone-in refills can be placed by calling (619) 532-8400.

Automotive Services Exams

Active duty applications for the November 2005 Automotive Services Excellence Examinations must be submitted to the Miramar Education Center, Building 8456, by Aug. 31.

Applicants must pay a \$32 registration fee and may take up to three exams. Additional exams cost extra. Regular exams are \$25, advanced exams are \$50 and re-certification exams are \$50.

Registration forms are available from the Education Center.

Applicants must have either an automotive Military Occupation Specialty or related MOS.

There will be no civilian testing. For more information, call 577-1895.

Impounded Vehicles

The following vehicles have been impounded and need to be claimed by the owners. Towing fees average \$113, storage fees \$28 daily. For more information contact the Provost Marshal's Office at 577-1461.

Vehicle:	License:	Vehicle:	License:
1994 Saturn Sedan	CA/3HNN476	1980 Pontiac Trans Am	CA/4TGW678
1986 Mazda RX-7	CA/IPXV997	1999 Ford Mustang	CA/6B05453
1996 Honda Civic	CA/4BMR148	1993 Chevy Impala	CA/4MZV175
1990 Geo Storm	WI/DG388T	1998 Toyota Tacoma	CA/5X02132
1980 Chevy Camaro	CA/5EVA702	1986 Oldsmobile	CA/2CXL275
1996 Mitsubishi Eclipse	CA/4VPD893	1993 Buick LeSabre	CA/3EAU645